

Appl. No. 10/608,382
Response Dated October 4, 2005
Reply to Office action of August 25, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The undersigned would like to express his appreciation to the Examiner for his time and comments at the interview of September 27, 2005.

In the Office Action of August 25, 2005, claims 1-14 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over claims 1-12 of Patent 6,650,433 (Keane et al.) in view of Patent 6,088,120 (Shibusawa et al.). Also, the Examiner requested a more descriptive title and abstract. A replacement title and replacement abstract are submitted herewith.

Regarding the double patenting rejection, it is believed that the Examiner earlier indicated that claims related to print job aggregation based on a printing parameter were distinct from aggregation claims that did not recite parameter-based aggregation. Somewhat similar claims were previously subject to a restriction requirement. The original patent application 09/557,571 (now the Keane patent 6,650,433) included claims that were directed to print job aggregation based on a printing parameter. Specifically, original claims 16-18 of 09/557,571 were drawn to a method of receiving individual print jobs having an associated parameter indicating a delivery time and creating an aggregate print job of individual print jobs having similar delivery times. These claims were the subject of a restriction requirement mailed March 22, 2001. The current pending claims are not the same as the original claims 16-18, but they are similar in that they are directed to aggregation of individual print jobs based on printing parameters associated with the individual print jobs.

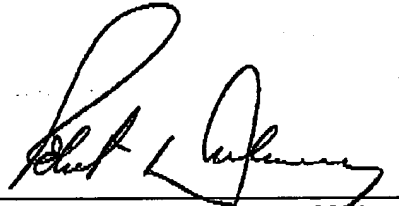
In any event, it is believed that pending claims 1-14 claim are patentably distinct from the claims of Keane. Attached Exhibits 1 and 2 present side-by-side comparisons of Keane independent claim 1 and pending independent claims 1 and 2 of

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the current application. (Bolding has been added in the Exhibits to highlight some claim differences.) Claim 1 of Keane is directed to a method for managing individual print jobs from multiple customers and recites that the layout has a plurality of individual print jobs from different customers positioned in each of its two dimensions. This limitation is not present in claims 1 and 6 of the pending application. Pending independent claims 1 and 6, unlike Keane claim 1, recite print jobs being received with a plurality of associated printing parameters and performing steps of storing and searching the parameters to identify print jobs having at least some common parameters. These limitations are not present in Keane.

In light of the above comments, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the double patenting rejection. Favorable action and allowance of pending claims 1-14 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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EXHIBIT 1

6,650,433 – Claim 1

10/608,382 - Claim 1

A method for managing individual print jobs from multiple customers ,	A computer-implemented method for managing print jobs
the method comprising	comprising
receiving individual print jobs electronically	receiving individual print jobs, each individual print job having a plurality of associated printing parameters,
	storing the individual print jobs and the associated parameters,
	searching the stored parameters to identify individual print jobs having at least some common parameters, and
aggregating at least some of the individual print jobs to create one or more larger aggregate print jobs, each of the aggregate print jobs comprising individual print jobs arranged in a two-dimensional layout having a plurality of individual print jobs from different customers positioned in each of its two dimensions, whereby individual print jobs from different customers will be printed simultaneously when the aggregate print job is printed, and	aggregating at least a portion of identified individual print jobs having at least some common parameters to create a larger aggregate print job arranged in a two-dimensional layout having a plurality of individual print jobs positioned in each of its two dimensions
electronically transmitting one or more aggregate print jobs to one or more printers for printing, the one or more printers being configured to print copies of the aggregate print jobs transmitted to it.	

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EXHIBIT 2

6,650,433 – Claim 1

10/608,382 - Claim 2

A method for managing individual print jobs from multiple customers ,	A computer-implemented method for managing print jobs
the method comprising	comprising
receiving individual print jobs electronically	receiving individual print jobs, each individual print job having plurality of associated printing parameters,
	storing the individual print jobs and the associated parameters,
	defining a two-dimensional aggregate print job to be printed in accordance with a set of printing parameters, the aggregate print job having a plurality of individual print job positions in each of its two dimensions,
	searching the stored printing parameters to identify individual print jobs having at least some associated printing parameters in common with the set of printing parameters of the aggregate print job, and
aggregating at least some of the individual print jobs to create one or more larger aggregate print jobs, each of the aggregate print jobs comprising individual print jobs arranged in a two-dimensional layout having a plurality of individual print jobs from different customers positioned in each of its two dimensions, whereby individual print jobs from different customers will be printed simultaneously when the aggregate print job is printed, and	assigning at least some of the identified individual print jobs to print job positions in the aggregate print job.
electronically transmitting one or more aggregate print jobs to one or more printers for printing, the one or more printers being configured to print copies of the aggregate print jobs transmitted to it.	